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UCAPAWA News

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

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VOL. II.—NO. 3 September 8, 1941

Wage Increase for Campbell Soup Workers

Chicago, Ill., August 29.—Granting of a 12½ per cent increase at the Chicago plant of Campbell Soup late yesterday ended a one-day complete stoppage at the plant. Some 3,000 are employed at the plant, which operates under contract with UCAPAWA.

Workers left the plant in support of the warehousemen and other workers who had been given a run-around on a wage increase originally agreed to by the company last March.

Shortly after the original stoppage in the warehouse the workers went back pending further negotiations. But failing a satisfactory offer by the company, the entire plant walked out in support of the warehousemen and picketed until finally the 12½ per cent plant-wide increase offer came from the company.

Work was resumed at the plant immediately after the settlement yesterday.

Public statements by W. J. Reese, plant manager to the effect that the union broke the grievance machinery provided in the contract were completely unwarranted in view of the fact that negotiations have been going on for months.

Sardine Wages Up, Full Job Protection Won

Wages in the newest sardine canning contract of the UCAPAWA, Local 5, in San Francisco were increased from 8½ to 40% and top the rates in AFL contracts in the industry by substantial amounts.

Steve Glumaz, UCAPAWA Organizer, announced that this contract is the first victory in the drive to organize sardine and fish reduction workers in the San Francisco Bay area. The closed shop contract was signed with the

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HAWAIIAN SUGAR WORKERS WIN HISTORIC PACT

First union contract ever signed in the sugar industry of Hawaii has just been concluded between the UCAPAWA and the McBryde Sugar Co., Ltd. The pact covers some 400 workers.

Use of camp halls on plantation property for union meetings, use of company bulletin boards and the right of union representatives to go on company property to investigate grievances are important provisions of the pact. Up until now all plantations had strictly prohibited "outsiders" from entering company property.

Edward Matsuki Arashiro, local union president, pointed out that "The spirit in which the negotiations were carried on indicates that past bitterness on both sides has been wiped out and that we can get along in the future and iron out difficulties on a man-to-man realistic basis."

President Arashiro emphasized that this pact meant the beginning of complete organization of the Hawaiian sugar industry. "Our job has just commenced," said Arashiro, "The rest of the industry needs organization and we are proceeding to that task at once."

The struggle for union conditions began a century ago when plantation workers at Kalao, Kanai struck unsuccessfully for a 25 cent per day increase. Signing of the UCAPAWA pact marks the turning of the tide of anti-unionism in the Hawaiian sugar industry after years of struggle.

On Their Toes

At a recent membership meeting Local 55 in Middletown, Ohio, voted to send cards and letters to Senators protesting the "soak the poor" tax bill. Three dollars was voted from the treasury to pay for the post cards.

Local 55 is working hard to force the company, P. Lorillard, to grant a pay raise.

The UCAPAWA NEWS

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Quaker Oats Snake Dance

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa.—Quaker Oats plant here, largest cereal plant in the world covering 360 acres of floor space was rocked recently by a snake dance of 700 demonstrating workers. The demonstration was from 9 to 10 a. m.

Cause of the demonstration was a compromise wage increase offer which management had made the previous day and which was unacceptable to the membership of the new local of UCAPAWA.

In an effort to divide the workers the company had offered increases of from 2 to 10c an hour for new employees, excluding from even this small increase all employees who had worked there two years or more.

This clumsy anti-union move has only served to strengthen the drive of the local union for its first contract with this traditionally open-shop company.

Spark plugs in the demonstration were Thomas Ackerman, President of the local union, Arthur Bliss, treasurer, Mary Kelley, Chief Stewardess, and Steward Clarence Esterday.

After the snake dance the workers marched single file through the office singing "Solidarity Forever" and ended up in the recreation hall for a short dance. Steward Bob Hinton led the singing.

"This orderly and effective show of strength," said Ed Nix, UCAPAWA Organizer, "should convince Quaker Oats management at Cedar Rapids that the workers are not going to take 'no' for an answer on a long over-due wage increase and a satisfactory contract."

California Conference Surveys Gains, Organizing Campaigns

Los Angeles, Calif., August 24.—Surveying three months work, UCAPAWA locals in California, at a conference here today, laid plans for new organizing work in the San Francisco Bay among fish cannery workers, in Los Angeles and Salinas among fruit and vegetable canneries and among the cotton compress workers of the San Joaquin Balley.

"Five International Organizers are assigned to these campaigns," said Donald Henderson, General President. "Substantial gains in membership during the past three months in California have provided us with real opportunities to go forward."

The biggest problems facing California today are the successful concluding of the new contract for the 1,200 walnut workers in the giant California Walnut Growers Association in Los Angeles and the work of collecting large sums of back wages owed the Salinas lettuce workers in an NLRB decision. This decision upheld by the Courts covers some three hundred workers and runs back to 1939 and in some cases to 1936.

The cotton compress locals in Fresno and Bakersfield have been extended to include the cotton compress local in Phoenix, Ariz. Negotiations are now in progress in all three locals for new and improved contracts.

A drive is planned to oust Lundberg and his Seafarers International AFL Union from the sardine canneries in the San Francisco Bay area. Last week UCAPAWA signed a closed shop contract with the highest wages and best working conditions in this area. The contract is in the large Northern Packing Company plant.

Plans to expand organizing work in the San Diego area as a result of marked gains by Local 64 were also outlined.

International Organizers Moreno, Lopez, Gardner, and Glumaz, have already been assigned for the next three months.

"REMEMBER CLARICH" Honor Roll

Locals 7-2, 47, 55, 68, 105, 110, 186, 232, 237, 273, 638.

If your local is contributing but is omitted from this Honor Roll, please notify the International Office in writing at once.

SARDINE WAGES UP

(Continued from page 1)

San Francisco Sardine Association on behalf of the Northern Packing Corp. on August 21.

Wages in the contract range from 65c for checkers and can girls and a 70c minimum for packers, up to $1.25 per hour for double seamer operators.

Basic over-time provision is for time and one-half over the 8-hour day. Since fish canneries are exempt from the Wage-Hour law, unions still have the job of establishing the 8-hour day with time and one-half for over-time in the industry.

Job security is provided through strict seniority provisions and hiring through the union hall. This means that for the first time in the sardine canning industry the right of the employer to be sole judge of qualifications has been sharply curtailed. Unjust discharges are taken up through the grievance machinery and a reinstated worker gets full back pay for time lost.

Other gains include provision for 15 days' notice of lay-off or 15 days' severance pay, well defined grievance machinery, overtime pay for Sundays and Holidays and payment for a minimum of four hours when called in for work.

Spice and Pep and Progress

By ART LEMLE

Local 297, Woolson Spice Unit, in Toledo, Ohio, can boast of a three-year membership in the CIO this coming November.

Under the leadership of its first presidents, Stanley Kaiser and Norman Hineline, and current President Deloss Frisch, Local 297 has made real progress.

This does not mean that there have been no difficulties, but with capable leadership and a cooperative membership solid unity has been built and that's what counts.

This year a majority of the workers enjoyed two weeks vacation with pay, a number of holidays are paid and recently a blanket increase was won.

Popular activity in the local is the soft ball team which has won a hard hitting reputation.

UCAPAWA members and their wives are urged to ask for Woolson brand coffee, tea and spices.

Editor's Note: No small part of the credit for Local 297 progress should go to Art Lemle who regularly reports news of the local in Toledo's CIO News.

There's Gravy in Quaker Oats

Quaker Oats in 1941 made a profit of $4,141,511. Profit is figured after all payments for taxes, interest and depreciation.

Out of the profits preferred dividends of $1,074,606 were paid, at the rate of 6%. Common dividends amounted to $3,497,765, which is at the rate of 23% on the stated value of the stock.

Since the total paid in dividends was slightly more than the profits, surplus decreased a little. However, surplus at the end of the year stood at over $15,000,000. This surplus is property piled up out of profits over the years and is not all held in cash.

To get a full picture of the amounts made by Quaker Oats stockholders, the owners of the company, it is necessary to focus one year such as 1940 in relation to the entire past history of the company. Stock dividends paid at six different times in the past mean that an original investment of $100 has by the year 1940 become about $322. Then, too, back in 1925 each share was divided into four shares.

Applying these figures to the $5 per share dividend in 1940 it turns out that in terms of original investment, that is, the amount of cash actually put into the business, this is a dividend of around $64 in one year on a $100 investment. In the ten years since 1931, $100 in original investment has yielded about $760.

Quaker Oats owns cereal plants in Akron, Ohio; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; St. Joseph, Mo., and in Canada in Peterborough and Sakatoon. They also own a macaroni plant in Tecumseh, Mich., a "muffets" plant in Depew, N. Y., a feed mill in Memphis, Tenn. and a paper mill in Pekin, Ill., as well as 55 country grain elevators in Iowa, Illinois and South Dakota.

General plants in Europe are in Southall, England; Rotterdam, Holland; Elsen, Germany, and Nakskov, Denmark. From the last three it has been impossible to transfer profits for the past several years.

It is apparently due to this foreign situation that net sales dropped from $72,524,771 in $58,987,394 in 1940. In spite of this drop in net sales, profits were virtually the same in 1940 as in 1937, varying only from $4,167,047 in 1937 to $4,141,511 in 1940.

William Sweetland of Local 68, Daily Pickle Workers, is a Vice-President of the Michigan State Industrial Union Council.

Legislation and Government

"Draft the Strikers" Order Must Be Repealed

CIO people are urged to again protest the "draft the strikers" order which was issued by Brigadier General Hershey, Director of Selective Service to all local draft boards on June 9, 1941. Allen Haywood, CIO Director of Organizations urged the repeal of the order in a letter to Hershey on August 14.

Brother Haywood pointed out that, "The Order encourages employers to feel that they need no longer bargain collectively with their employes; that the weight of the Selective Service will be placed in support of their refusal to work out agreements with their employes should such failure result in a strike.

"The workers in the CIO are patriotic and public-spirited. They will do more than their share in the defense of their nation. But American workers resent coercion. They resent therefore the use of the Selective Service as a threat against their right to exercise collective bargaining."

The CIO has consistently pointed out that the purpose of the Order is to use the draft to break strikes and that this is "clearly illegal." So long as this Order stands it will hang like a sword on a thin thread over the heads of strikers.

UCAPAWA locals and members should communicate immediately with General Hershey in Washington, D. C., asking him to repeal the "draft the strikers" Order.

FISH CANNERS SEEK CIO CONTRACT

"With the beginning of the fish season after Labor Day the workers of the Vita Food Products and of the Max Block Division have started their drive for a CIO contract," reports Fritz Singer, press agent of Local 105.

Demands for wage increases and for job security through seniority rights were the chief points of discussion at a membership meeting on August 23.

Brother Amador Troche has been elected temporary secretary of Local 5, San Francisco, following the resignation of Brother Raymond Aguirre.

Old and new secretaries were elected the Labor Day Committee, to arrange for Local 5's part in the San Francisco Labor Day parade.

NEW LOCALS

Since December 1, 1940 UCAPAWA has chartered 18 new locals as follows:

Dairy

LOCAL 335, Cambridge Springs, Pa.
Arnold Ball, President
Route 1, Venango, Pa.
Company: Carnation Milk Co.

LOCAL 20, Erie, Pa.
Edward Stein, President
323 Poplar St.
Erie, Pa.
Company: Sanitary Farms Dairy, Inc., and others.

Grain Processing

LOCAL 44, Decatur, Indiana.
Welmer Harmon, President
Decatur, Indiana
Companies: Central Soya, Inc. McMillan Feed Mills, Inc.

LOCAL 101, York, Pa.
Earl Lehigh, President
79 S. Main St.
Dover, Pa.
Company: John W. Eshelman and Sons

Cotton Processing

LOCAL 74, Blytheville, Arkansas.
John Burns, President
Box 847
Blytheville, Arkansas
Companies: Cotton Compresses and Oil Mills.

Food

LOCAL 309, Harvey, La.
Jake Territo, Pres.
547 Second St.
Harvey, La.
Company: Swift and Co.

CIO-MADE CIGARS

The following cigars and stogies are made in shops under contract with UCAPAWA:

Belvedere	Jose Lupez de Lux
Ben Lewis	Julliett
Broadway	Kilmer
Brunswick	Kingsmate
Cadelsa	Koler
Caul	La Gera
Crown Stogies	La Natalia
Diaz Vega	La Planta
Don Fubano	Lola
Dora Dela	La Primadora
Duke Orfina	Lewis 5th
Dyke	Marta
Edgewood	Melo Crown Stogies
Entre	O'Nic'o
Epoca	Rosalia
Expert Stogies	Silver Ash
Expert Jr. Stogies	Star of Cuba
Felipe	Vanderbilt
Flor de Campo	Webster
Flower Garcia	Wheeling Brand
Gegert	Wheeling Specials
Hoyl Gosha	